

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 ADDIS 01834 151606Z

67

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 CU-04

AID-20 PC-04 NIC-01 DRC-01 /145 W

----- 049786

R 151411Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7674

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASY MOGADISCIO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 1834

E.O.11652: NA

TAGS: PINT ECON SGEN ET

SUBJ: THE PUBLIC MOOD

REFS: (A) ADDIS 1418; (B) USDAO IR-6 830 0035 74;

(C) ASMARA 083; (C) ADDIS 13958 OF 73

SUMMARY:

1. URGAN PUBLIC MALAISE DESCRIBED REF A CONTINUES WITH INDICATIONS SITUATION MAY WORSEN. OPPOSITION, PARTICULARLY AMONG TEACHERS, TO EDUCATION SECTOR REVIEW (ESR) PROPOSALS SEEMS BE INTENSIFYING. AIR FORCE STAND-DOWN TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED BUT WIDESPREAD GRIEVANCES IN MILITARY REMAIN UNRESOLVED. POTENTIAL FOR LABOR UNREST INCREASING.

2. THREAT OF TEACHERS STRIKE: AFTER WEEK OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN TEACHERS AND IEG, SETTLEMENT STILL NOT CERTAIN (REF A PARA 3 AND REF D). AS GLEANED FROM CONTRADICTORY REPORTS, IT APPEARS IEG BOTH AGREED SCRAP ESR PAY SCALES, WHICH CALLED FOR CUT IN SALARIES FOR MOST TEACHERS, AND OFFERED SALARY INCREASE OVER PREVIOUS LEVELS. IN RETURN, IEG REQUESTED TEACHERS DROP OPPOSITION

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ADDIS 01834 151606Z

TO REMAINING ESR PROPOSALS AND DENY THEY HAD EVER CALLED FOR STRIKE, WHICH ILLEGAL. REPORTEDLY, TEACHERS, WHO INCREASINGLY

JOINED BY PARENTS, STUDENTS, PARLIAMENTARIANS AND EDUCATED ELITE, DEMANDED IEG PUBLICLY CANCEL ESR PROPOSALS. TEACHERS SAID THEY WILL OTHERWISE BEGIN STRIKES ON FEB. 18. IEG HAS NOT RESPONDED NOR HAS MIN. OF EDUCATION HONORED LOWER HOUSE PARLIAMENT'S REQUESTS THAT HE APPEAR AND EXPLAIN ESR.

3. BESIDES OPPOSING GENERALLY LOWER PAY SCALES FOR TEACHERS, THOSE CRITICISING ESR CLAIM ITS PROPOSALS UNREALISTIC WITHOUT LAND AND OTHER REFORMS AND DESIGNED CONTROL ENTRANCE INTO ELITE BY SHARPLY LIMITING OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION BEYOND GRADE 4 LEVEL. OPPONENTS SAY ESR ACCEPTED BY IEG IN ORDER PLEASE FOREIGN DONORS AND THEY BLAME US AND OTHERS FOR PROMOTING ESR PROPOSALS.

4. THERE WIDESPREAD RUMORS AND CONCERN RE UNRESOLVED PROBLEMS IN MILITARY, LABOR, ETC. STUDENTS TAKING ADVANTAGE UNSETTLED ATMOSPHERE BY OPENLY SYMPATHIZING WITH TEACHERS AND AIR FORCE PERSONNEL (CF REF D ON STUDENT STRATEGY). SUPPORT INCLUDES DISTRIBUTION OF GNAFLETS. ON FEB. 14, IN APPARENT EXUBERANCE OVER COMPLETION MID-TERM EXAMS, SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS TOOK TO ADDIS STREETS IN ROCK-THROWING MELEE. UNCHARACTERISTICALLY, POLICE RESPONSE WAS SLOW AND INADEQUATE. NEW TACTIC OF STUDENTS SEEMS BE SELECTION DIPLOMATIC CARS AS TARGETS IN ADDITION BUSES. NUMBER OF CD-PLATED CARS DAMAGED, INCLUDING THREE US EMBASSY ONES. FRENCH EMBASSY PLANS PROTEST LACK SECURITY TO IEG, SUPPOSEDLY THE REACTION DESIRED BY STUDENTS. IF TEACHER STRIKE MATERIALIZES, STUDENT TROUBLES THROUGHOUT COUNTRY A GOOD POSSIBILITY.

5. COMMENT: IEG ALREADY CONCERNED ABOUT MAINTAINING BUDGETARY RESTRAINT IN VIEW UNCERTAINTY IDA FUNDS, INCREASED FUEL COSTS, PRESSURE FOR INCREASED MILITARY SPENDING, ETC. ACCEDING TO DEMANDS FOR PAY INCREASES AND PROMOTIONS (NOTE THAT ENLISTED MILITARY AND POLICE RECEIVED GENERAL RAISE LAST NOVEMBER) CAN ONLY AGGRAVATE BUDGETARY CONTROL PROBLEMS, ADD TO INFLATION, AND ENCOURAGE FURTHER WA?GE INCREASE DEMANDS. WYMAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL MILITARY RELATIONS, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, INFLATION, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, TEACHERS, LABOR STRIKES, CIVIL DISORDERS, STUDENTS, COST OF LIVING WAGE ADJUSTMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ADDIS01834
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740231/aaaabcin.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) ADDIS 1418; (B) USDAO IR-6 830 0, 035 74;
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 AUG 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <04-Sep-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE PUBLIC MOOD
TAGS: PINT, ECON, SGEN, ET, IEG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005